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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/736,804	12/15/2003	John E. Larson	LSN-4cdXCD1	4135
7590	08/05/2004		EXAMINER	
Jean Kyle Saliwanchik, Lloyd & Saliwanchik P.O. Box 2274 Hamilton, MT 59840-4274			WEINHOLD, INGRID M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3632	

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/736,804	LARSON, JOHN E.	
Examiner	Art Unit		
Ingrid M Weinhold	3632		

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 66-187 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) 66-187 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____

Election/Restrictions

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- 1) Figure 1
- 2) Figures 2-6
- 3) Figures 7-8
- 4) Figure 9
- 5) Figures 10-12
- 6) Figures 13A-13B
- 7) Figures 14A-14B
- 8) Figures 15A-15B
- 9) Figures 16-18
- 10) Figures 19-21
- 11) Figures 22-24
- 12) Figures 25-27
- 13) Figures 28-29
- 14) Figures 30A-30B
- 15) Figure 31
- 16) Figure 32
- 17) Figure 33
- 18) Figure 34

19) Figure 35

20) Figure 36

21) Figure 37

22) Figure 38

23) Figure 39

24) Figure 40

25) Figure 41

26) Figure 42

27) Figure 43

28) Figure 44

29) Figure 45

30) Figure 46

31) Figure 47

32) Figure 48

33) Figure 49

34) Figure 50

35) Figure 51

36) Figure 52

37) Figure 53

38) Figure 54

39) Figure 55

40) Figure 56

- 41) Figure 57
- 42) Figure 58
- 43) Figure 59
- 44) Figures 60-62
- 45) Figure 63
- 46) Figure 64
- 47) Figure 65
- 48) Figures 66A-66B
- 49) Figures 67A-67B
- 50) Figures 68A-68B
- 51) Figures 69A-69B
- 52) Figures 70A-70B
- 53) Figure 71
- 54) Figure 72

Due to the large number of species and claims, a written request for an election of the invention is being made instead of requesting an oral election via telephone, so that the client has ample opportunity to review the species and claims.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, there is no generic claim.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ingrid M Weinhold whose telephone number is 703-306-5762. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Tues 5:30AM - 4:00PM Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leslie Braun can be reached on 703-308-2156. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Ingrid M Weinhold
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3632
08/02/04


RAMON O. RAMIREZ 6
PRIMARY EXAMINER